

USS Enterprise (CVN 65)

# THE SHUTTLE

Sunday, October 10, 2010

## *From Messman to Master Chief*

*Who is your CMC?*



USS Enterprise (CVN 65)

# THE SHUTTLE

The Big E Shuttle is published and printed daily underway and weekly in port by the USS Enterprise (CVN 65) Media Department, FPO AE09543-2810. This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents are not necessarily the official views of the U.S. Government. The Big E Shuttle reserves the right to edit submissions. Direct inputs and comments to MC1(SW/AW) Barry Abbott at Abbottbd@cvn65.navy.mil.

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## Walking the line

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) Airman Jamie F. Laventure of the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise's (CVN 65) Air department holds a shot line on the flight deck to prevent personnel from inadvertently crossing during catapult no-load testing. Enterprise Strike Group is conducting a Composite Training Unit Exercise in preparation for an upcoming deployment.



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Jared M. King

## Enterprising Excerpts

"Every moment is a golden one for him who has the vision to recognize it as such."

- Henry Miller

### THE LEARNING CHALLENGER

By Robert Barnett

#### DIRECTIONS:

- Using each "Chaos Grid" number with its letter one time, arrange the numbers with their letters for the "Order Grid" so each vertical column, horizontal row, and two diagonals each ADD to numbers inside thick lined cells.
- Some correct numbers with their letters have been put into the "Order Grid" to get you started. Also, above the "Order Grid" is a "Decoded Message" clue.
- After you have solved the "Order Grid" doing as direction "A" says, put the letters from horizontal rows, from left to right, under "Decoded Message" and make words to form the answer.

#### CHAOS GRID

20	42	2	56
A	O	T	F
1	17	36	38
I	T	G	E
29	6	12	34
R	O	I	N
24	15	52	3
D	N	S	R

#### ORDER GRID

CLUE: ALIEN

				79
				79
		-17		79
		T		79
	56		20	79
	F		R	79
58				79
E				79
79	79	79	79	79

DECODED MESSAGE:

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Design by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (EXW) Stacy D. Laseter

# Conserve Potable Water, Enterprise!



# 10th anniversary of Cole bombing Tuesday

## *Ship still carries reminders of terrorist attack*

NORFOLK, Va. (WAVY) - Tuesday marks the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attack on the Norfolk-based USS Cole.

Seventeen sailors were killed in the suicide bomb attack on Oct. 12, 2000, as the destroyer was on a refueling stop in Aden Harbour, Yemen.

The ship, now back in service, just returned from a deployment to the Gulf of Aden.

From the outside, there is no evidence of the blast that nearly sunk the vessel. But below decks, not only is there still evidence of the attack, but also a deliberate effort to make sure what happened that day is never forgotten by the crew.

Less than two years after the attack, on April 19, 2002, the repaired Cole was recommissioned. It departed on its first six-month deployment in November, 2003, but the USS Cole is more than just another destroyer in the fleet.

"It's a symbol of our resolve in the global war on terror, and it's a symbol of our power," Cmdr. Andrew Ehlers, Cole's commanding officer, told WAVY

News 10.

While most of the ship's current crew wasn't old enough to be in the Navy when the ship was attacked, memorials aboard the ship, such as a case holding a smoke-charred flag that survived the blast and 17 gold stars on the passageway known as the Hall of Heroes, serve as constant reminders to the young sailors.

The Hall of Heroes leads directly to the bulkhead that took the brunt of the blast on the day of the terrorist attack.

"It's a constant reminder that there are threats out there," said USS Cole sailor SM Caleb Parker. "There are people out there that don't like us. And you walk down the P-way and you say a little prayer to yourself about the soldiers that lost their lives and everybody that had to fight the ship to keep it afloat."

Eight of the Cole sailors that survived the attack are still fighting, only this battle is in the court room. Just this week, they filed a law suit against the government of Sudan. In 2007, family members of the 17 sailors killed in the



attack persuaded a U.S. court to find Sudanese support allowed al-Qaida bombers to attack the destroyer. They were awarded \$13 million in damages and interest from Sudan.

Sudan has denied responsibility. The award was paid from Sudanese assets frozen by the U.S. Government.

## Rating conversion keeps good Sailors on the best path

**By MC1 (AW) LaTunya Howard**  
Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs Office

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- With the merger of Perform-to-Serve (PTS) and Fleet Rating Identification Engine (RIDE) Oct. 1, Sailors are being advised to take full advantage of the program's conversion option in order to stay Navy as the force is shaped to provide future capabilities.

"What we have is 5,000 Sailors in overmanned ratings being looked at in PTS, but 6,000 vacancies in undermanned ratings not yet filled," said Mike Fair, Bureau of Naval Personnel deputy military community manager. "We have to match these Sailors up with these undermanned specialties

by educating Sailors on how PTS and Fleet RIDE can keep them from becoming separated from the Navy because they aren't in ratings we need."

PTS was implemented in March 2003 as a means for the Navy to match manning requirements with mission requirements. It is a centralized reservation system that balances overmanned and undermanned ratings, using reenlistments as its key tool.

With Fleet RIDE integration, Sailors are provided the additional information of what other rating billets are open, and what he or she qualifies for outside of their current rating, based on their Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery.

"Most Sailors are loyal to their rating and are reluctant to change," said

Senior Chief Navy Counselor (AW) Jermaine Rawls, Navy Personnel Command PTS Help Desk. "Career development boards are indispensable in raising the number of conversion requests through PTS."

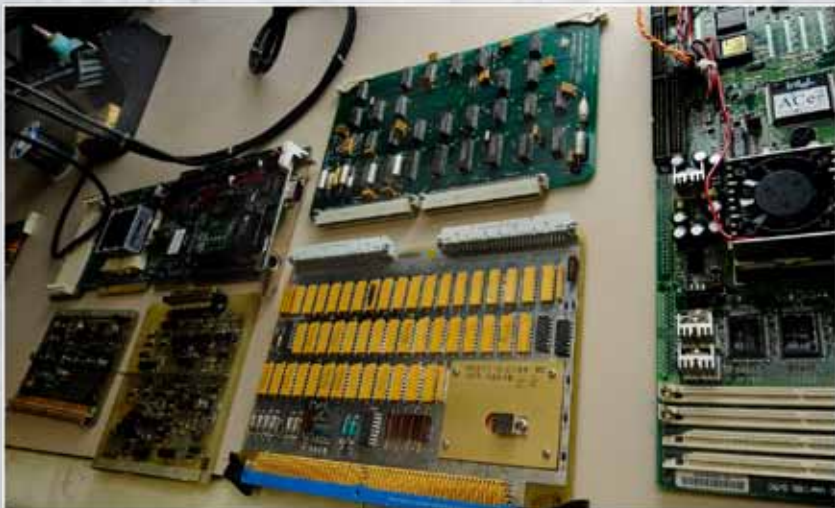
The chain of command must counsel Sailors before they enter the PTS window to clarify the importance of applying for both in-rate and conversion quotas.

"Some advantages that accompany a rating conversion are advancement, selective reenlistment bonus, formal training, college credit, and the opportunity to stay Navy," said Rawls.

Sailors considering conversion can review their Career Reenlistment Objective (CREO). CREO refers to the manning levels for all



# Short Circuit: Inside



Lance Cpl. Shannon Davis is a part of AIMD IM3 division and is featured in this pictorial,

IM3 department consists of:

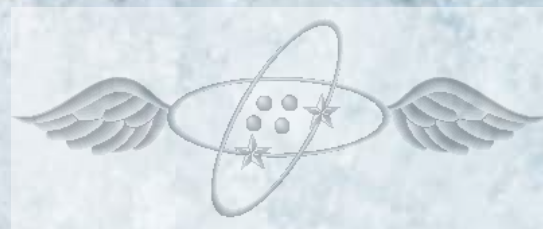
AT2 (AW) James Schenker, AT2 (AW/SW) Derrick Cody, AT1 Jeremy Marsh, AT1 (AW/SW) Harold Rainey, AT2 (AW) Christopher Trimm, ATAN Stephanie Weiland and Lance Cpl. Shannon Davis.





# de AIMD

A photo story by MC3 Richard J. Stevens  
Enterprise Public Affairs



LANCE CORPORAL  
(LCPL)



# SAILORS OF THE DAY



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Alex R. Forster

## Aviation Machinist's Mate Airman Tabitha S. Bledsoe

Q: Why did you join the Navy?

A: "I joined the Navy because I wanted to experience something new."

Q: What are your future goals?

A: "I want to pursue a career in law enforcement once I separate from the Navy."

Q: What do you do in your spare time?

A: "I like to watch sports and hang out with friends."

## Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Benjamin R. Shifflett

Q: Why did you join the Navy?

A: "I wanted to follow in my grandfather's footsteps who served in the Navy during World War II."

Q: What are your future goals?

A: "I want to continue my education and ultimately retire from the Navy. I also want to be the best father I can to my daughters."

Q: What do you do in your spare time?

A: "I like to spend time with my daughters and play basketball."



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Alex R. Forster

## Message in a Bottle

### Letters home from the Atlantic

[the following  
is an  
excerpt from  
a letter  
written by:  
ABH3  
Vincent  
Calvo]



Photo by MC3 Brooks B. Patton

"To my precious daughter,  
I know that at this time you are not old enough to understand any of this, but I want you to know I am thinking about you every day of my life. Day in and day out I look at the pictures I have of you, and the pictures I continue to receive of you growing up without me. It breaks my heart to think how much of your life I have missed, and how much more is to come. But, I want you to know that I am doing all of this for you. I knew this even before you were born. We're all put on this earth for a specific reason, and mine was to be your daddy. Yes, I may be away from you serving in the Navy, but I feel comforted knowing that I am setting a good example for you and whoever you come in contact with in your beautiful life. Next week is going to be your first birthday and again my job is keeping me from seeing you, but know that this is only temporary and I have you here in my heart and mind. I love you baby girl. Happy birthday! Love, Dad."



# Taking the helm

By MC3 Richard J. Stevens  
Enterprise Public Affairs

USS ENTERPRISE, At sea – As the Enterprise Carrier Strike Group (ENTSG) completed the fifth day of its Composite Training Unit Exercise Oct. 9, its flagship, USS Enterprise (CVN 65), is welcoming a new top enlisted Sailor on the deckplates.

Command Master Chief (CMDCM) (AW/SW) Keith G. Oxley has strong Irish roots, a strong work ethic, and he practices the lesson his grandfather taught him that ‘To whom much is given, much is expected.’

He’s been exceeding expectations for more than 24 years.

A self-proclaimed wayward Sailor, his rock has been his family, and he says they provide him with his greatest motivation. As USS Enterprise (CVN 65) conducts workups for its 21st deployment, Oxley is prepared for his new position as the ship’s top enlisted Sailor and all the expectations that come with it.

Oxley took charge Oct. 1, almost two-and-a-half decades after his career began as a Mess Management Specialist Seaman Recruit in 1986.

A native of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Oxley moved frequently in his youth. Never able to fully develop roots in one place, he understood the importance of stability at an early age. This led him to

spend more than 20 of his 24 years in the Navy assigned to sea commands. While this may seem contradictory, to Oxley the choice made perfect sense.

“I took sea duty when shore duty billets were not available in Virginia to keep my daughter in the same school,” said Oxley. “She’s been in the same house for the past 18 years. She’s had the same friends.”

Command master chiefs (CMC) advise their commanding officer on all matters related to the command and both enlisted and junior officer Sailors.

Oxley often asks himself how he can best mentor and push Sailors to, as he puts it, “love the game.” But for all of the success that he has obtained, he credits it to the support of his family.

“My wife has been my mentor for my entire career,” said Oxley. “She’s been by my side through the ups and downs and has always served as a sounding board for me. She has a good perspective on things and gives great advice.”

Now facing the responsibility of leading Enterprise’s enlisted Sailors and developing the command’s junior officers through the chiefs’ mess, Oxley looks for tangible connections with his Sailors in order to inspire and motivate them and foster their development.

“I have a strong desire to help others become well versed in Navy policies, directives and instructions,” said Oxley. “We must pass along our naval heritage and training. It’s important to hand down that knowledge to the next generation of Sailors.”

The desire to inform Sailors of the traditions they are now a part of is evidenced by Oxley’s personal tour, which he gives to each “Sailor of the Day.” The Sailors’ tours culminate inside the ship’s museum, where he emphasizes the history of Enterprise and their

places in it.

“He made me feel more than just a fireman apprentice when he gave me the tour,” said Electrician’s Mate Fireman Apprentice Anthony J. Arias, Engineering department’s E division Sailor of the Day for Oct. 6. “He inspired me to be like him, to push myself and one day become a master chief.”

Though Oxley’s road to command master chief wasn’t always a smooth one, he persevered and made the most of his opportunities.

“I got into trouble. I was a wayward Sailor,” said Oxley. “But, I was a really hard worker and realized the Navy was a great career, and I wanted to make the most out of it.”

After accomplishing the goals he set for himself within his rating, Oxley knew that it was time to move on.

“I wanted to be command master chief of Enterprise because it’s a tough job,” said Oxley. “You measure the success of a leader by the success of those they are challenged to lead. Where else can you lead more Sailors than on an aircraft carrier?”

As Oxley takes over as the last command master chief of the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, he too is solidifying his place in naval heritage.

“I consider myself a regular kid from New York who’s had tremendous opportunity,” said Oxley. “I wake up every morning knowing that ‘I owe’ and there is no place I would rather finish my last sea tour than on Enterprise.” This is Oxley’s third time leading Sailors aboard Enterprise. He completed a deployment as the CMC of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 123 and also completed flight deck certification as the CMC of Carrier Airwing 1.



*“You measure the success of a leader by the success of those they are challenged to lead.”*

*—Command Master Chief (AW/SW) Keith G. Oxley*

# Sunday Football Schedule

**1:00 pm (ET)**

Denver Broncos at Baltimore Ravens  
 Jacksonville Jaguars at Buffalo Bills  
 Kansas City Chiefs at Indianapolis Colts  
 Chicago Bears at Carolina Panthers  
 Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Cincinnati Bengals  
 Atlanta Falcons at Cleveland Browns  
 St. Louis Rams at Detroit Lions  
 New York Giants at Houston Texans  
 Green Bay Packers at Washington Redskins

**4:00 pm (ET)**

New Orleans Saints at Arizona Cardinals

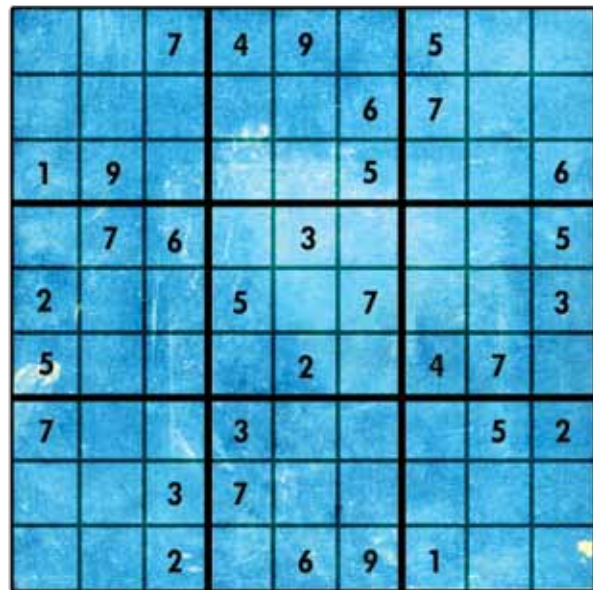
**4:15 pm (ET)**

Tennessee Titans at Dallas Cowboys  
 San Diego Chargers at Oakland Raiders

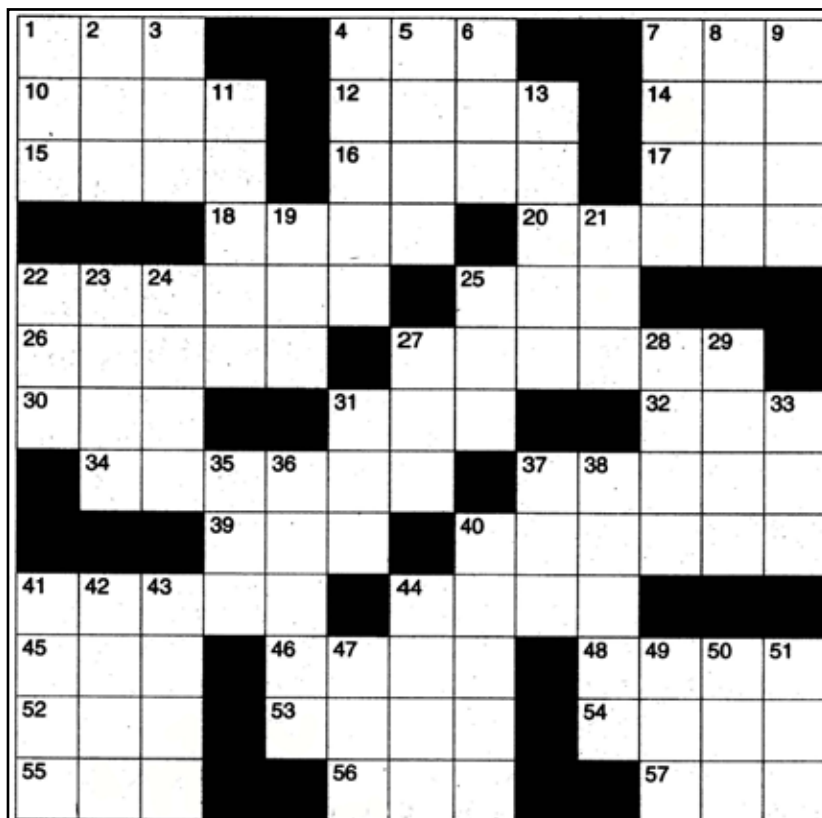
**8:20 pm (ET)**

Philadelphia Eagles at San Francisco 49ers

## SUDOKU



## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Pounds (abbr.)
4. Also
7. Stomach muscles, briefly
10. Small particle
12. \_\_\_\_ wolf
14. Numerals (abbr.)
15. Edible fish
16. \_\_\_\_ parmesan
17. Whether or \_\_\_\_
18. Comedian Hartman
20. Small appliances
22. Not visible
25. One \_\_\_\_ time (2 wds.)
26. Downpours
27. "Bottoms up!"
30. Verb ending
31. \_\_\_\_ Plains
32. Have title to
34. Dog or cat, e.g.

Down

1. Women's \_\_\_\_
2. Fluffy stole
3. Main and Sesame (abbr.)
4. Cartoon chipmunk
5. Yuletide
6. Basis of heredity (abbr.)
7. \_\_\_\_ Domini
8. Benefit
9. Fast jets (abbr.)
11. Ski resort
13. Upper class
19. "\_\_\_\_ a Rebel"
21. Morma or Charlotte
22. Psychic Geller
23. Emile Zola novel
24. Indicator
25. Toe-wiggling sounds

37. Church feature

39. Edward's nickname
40. Certain bet
41. Do your own \_\_\_\_
44. Grandstand section
45. Male pronoun
46. Got an "A" on a test
48. Actress Storm
52. Mature
53. River in Egypt
54. "\_\_\_\_ Almighty"
55. Common title start
56. Poetic "above"
57. Pluralizing letter

27. Animation unit

28. Univ. military group
29. Wallop
31. Pop
33. Heston's gp.
35. Country motel
36. Actress Gallagher
37. Bunyan's tool
38. By and \_\_\_\_
40. Down source
41. "Name \_\_\_\_ Tune"
42. \_\_\_\_ school
43. "Got it!" (2 wds.)
44. Prefix for gram
47. AFL's partner
49. Wide street (abbr.)
50. "Leaving \_\_\_\_ Vegas"
51. Naval officer (abbr.)